

in this connection, which I felt that I ought to offer by way of explanation.—A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Mass.*

The Pigeon Hawk in Wayne Co., Michigan.—Mr. Herbert Spicer secured a Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*) on P. C. 671, Ecorse Township, Sept. 15, 1906. As an illustration of how easily a rare bird can be disregarded, this hawk was perched on the dead limb of a solitary hickory tree in the center of a buckwheat field and was indulging in a sun bath with wings and tail partly spread. We were passing on a road about 200 yards away. Mr. Spicer thought it a Sharp-shinned Hawk, but I insisted it did not have tail enough and was a female Sparrow Hawk. He was not satisfied; so I waited while he stalked the bird and secured it. I prepared it for my collection and found it a female with stomach empty. I see a hawk or two every year that I consider of this species but do not care to record them as such. The only other positive record is a female secured by me September 13, 1890, in Ecorse Township. The bird was flying across the Detroit River and when first seen was on the Canadian side.—J. CLAIRE WOOD, *Detroit, Mich.*

The Goshawk in Montgomery Co., Virginia.—A week of cold weather early in November last, with the mercury down to 22°, culminated in a blow, and a six-inch snow. During this snowstorm, a Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) was shot near Blacksburg and sent in to the College to me on Nov. 19, 1906. It was an adult female, in fine blue plumage, a trifle under size, and was quite fat. It is now No. 1362 of my collection. The Goshawk has been recorded from Virginia before, though I know of no very definite record as to time and locality. Dr. Rives, in his 'Catalogue of the Birds of Virginia,' merely says, "Very rare winter visitor," and quotes Coues and Prentiss as to Washington, D. C., occurrences of the species. This record, therefore, may be of some interest.

Every winter for the past sixteen years, I have looked for Crossbills to come here; it was therefore with some satisfaction that on the 16th of January, 1907, I heard and saw a solitary male *Loxia curvirostra minor*, on a small spruce, about twenty feet high, on the campus. It was entirely alone, was feeding on the cones, and uttering its call, and allowed me to walk up to the tree and all around it, to get a good look at it, and I left it there feeding when I was satisfied of the identification. I thought it unnecessary to kill it merely for the record, particularly as the bird ought to be found here every winter. I also have a large series from Yemassee, South Carolina, in my collection.—ELLIS N. A. SMYTH, JR., *Blacksburg, Va.*

The Barn Owl in Massachusetts.—A Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*) was taken at Weston, Mass., Nov. 14, 1906, by Mr. Charles Merriam. The specimen is now in my collection.—JOHN E. THAYER, *Lancaster, Mass.*